

Art Unit: 2194

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Examiner's Amendment

1. An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment, which places this application in condition for allowance.
2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Owen J. Gamon (Reg # 36,143) on 5/9/2009.

A. The application is amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

determining by a processor a server and a preferred delivery technique associated with a recipient in response to a message intended for the recipient selected via a page, wherein the preferred delivery technique and an identification of the server are encoded in the page, wherein the determining further comprises finding a telephone area code, a telephone exchange, and a telephone number of the recipient in the page and determining the server that is identified by the identification of the server and by the telephone area code, wherein the server is physically located within a region served by the telephone area code; and

sending by a processor the message and an indication of the preferred delivery technique to the server, wherein the sending further comprises sending the message and the indication of the preferred delivery technique to a queue at the server, wherein the queue is associated with a printer, the telephone area code, and the telephone exchange, wherein the message further comprises a file that comprises a spool file, and wherein the sending further comprises appending the telephone number of the recipient to a name of the file that is sent to the queue, wherein the server

sends a fax of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a fax transmission,

calls the recipient and plays the message if the preferred delivery technique comprises voice,

sends an email of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises an email transmission, and

prints and mails the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a physical delivery[.], wherein the server is further physically located within the region served by the telephone area code and the telephone exchange.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the message further comprises an order for services.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the message further comprises an order for goods.

Art Unit: 2194

6. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor;

a memory for storing instructions, wherein the instructions when executed by the processor, perform steps comprising:

~~means for determining by the processor~~ a server and a preferred delivery technique associated with a recipient in response to a message intended for the recipient selected via a page, wherein the preferred delivery technique and an identification of the server is are encoded in the page, wherein ~~the means for~~ determining the server further comprises ~~means for~~ finding a telephone area code and a telephone exchange, and a telephone number of the recipient in the page and ~~means for~~ determining the server that is identified by identification of the server and by the telephone area code, wherein the server is physically located within a region served by the telephone area code; and

~~means for~~ sending the message to the recipient via the preferred delivery technique and the server, wherein ~~the means for~~ sending further comprises ~~means for~~ sending the message and an indication of the preferred delivery technique to a queue at the server, wherein the queue is associated with a printer, the telephone area code, and the telephone exchange, wherein the message further comprises a file that comprises a spool file, and wherein the sending further comprises appending the telephone number of the recipient to a name of the file that is sent to the queue, wherein the server

sends a fax of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a fax transmission,

Art Unit: 2194

calls the recipient and plays the message if the preferred delivery technique comprises voice,

sends an email of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises an email transmission, and

prints and mails the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a physical delivery[[.]], wherein the server is further physically located within the region served by the telephone area code and the telephone exchange.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the message further comprises an order for goods.

10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the message further comprises an order for services.

11. (Currently amended) A storage medium ~~encoded with~~ storing instructions, wherein the instructions when executed by a processor, perform a method ~~comprise~~ comprising:

encoding by the processor an identification of a recipient, a telephone number for the recipient, ~~and~~ a preferred delivery technique for messages intended , and an identification of a server for the recipient into a page;

determining ~~a~~ the server and the preferred delivery technique associated with the recipient in response to a message intended for the recipient selected via the page, wherein the determining further comprises finding a telephone area code, a telephone

Art Unit: 2194

exchange, and the telephone number of the recipient in the page and determining the server that is identified by the identification of the server and by the telephone area code, wherein the server is physically located within a region served by the telephone area code; and

sending by the processor the message and an indication of the preferred delivery technique to the server, wherein the sending further comprises sending the message and the indication of the preferred delivery technique to a queue at the server, wherein the queue is associated with a printer, the telephone area code, and the telephone exchange, wherein the message further comprises a file that comprises a spool file, and wherein the sending further comprises appending the telephone number of the recipient to a name of the file that is sent to the queue, wherein the server

sends a fax of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a fax transmission,

calls the recipient and plays the message if the preferred delivery technique comprises voice,

sends an email of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises an email transmission, and

prints and mails the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a physical delivery^{[[.]]}, wherein the server is further physically located within the region served by the telephone area code and the telephone exchange.

12. (Canceled)

Art Unit: 2194

13. (Previously presented) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein the message further comprises an order for goods.

14. (Previously presented) The storage medium of claim 11, wherein the message further comprises an order for services.

15. (Canceled). -

16. (Currently amended) An electronic device comprising:

a processor; and

~~a storage device encoded with~~ a memory for storing instructions, wherein the instructions when executed ~~on~~ by the processor, ~~perform steps comprise comprising:~~

determining by the processor a server and a preferred delivery technique associated with a recipient in response to a message intended for the recipient selected via a page, wherein the preferred delivery technique and an identification of the server are encoded in the page, wherein the determining further comprises finding a telephone area code, a telephone exchange, and a telephone number of the recipient in the page and determining the server that is identified by the identification of the server and by the telephone area code, wherein the server is physically located within a region served by the telephone area code, and

sending by the processor the message to the recipient via the preferred delivery technique and the server, wherein the sending further comprises sending the message and an indication of the preferred delivery technique to a queue at the server, wherein the queue is associated with a printer, the telephone area code, and the telephone exchange,

Art Unit: 2194

wherein the message further comprises a file that comprises a spool file, and wherein the sending further comprises appending the telephone number of the recipient to a name of the file that is sent to the queue, wherein the server

sends a fax of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a fax transmission,

calls the recipient and plays the message if the preferred delivery technique comprises voice,

sends an email of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises an email transmission, and

prints and mails the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique comprises a physical delivery[[.]] ,wherein the server is further physically located within the region served by the telephone area code and the telephone exchange.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Canceled).

19. (Previously presented) The electronic device of claim 16, wherein the message further comprises an order for goods.

20. (Previously presented) The electronic device of claim 16, wherein the message further comprises an order for services.

21. (Canceled).

B. Please replace the original Abstract filed on 01/08/2004 with the following replacement Abstract:

ABSTRACT

A method, apparatus, system, and signal-bearing medium that in an embodiment determine a server and a preferred delivery technique for a recipient based on information encoded in a page. In various embodiments, an identification of the server may be encoded in the page. The recipient is selected via the page, and a message is sent to the recipient via the server and the preferred delivery technique. In addition, a queue of the server receives the message and the preferred delivery before the message is sent to the recipient. The preferred delivery technique is determined in order to send the message to the recipient. The server sends the message to the recipient in accordance with the determined preferred delivery technique.

C. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As to claims 1, 6, 11, 16 , the prior art as taught by Beck et al (US 2004/0122951 A1) in view of Kafri(US 2003/0223551 A1) in view of French(US 5,437,024 A) and further in view of Shires (US. 6,792,102) do not teach or render obvious the limitations recited in claims 1, 6, 11, 16, when taken in the context of the claims as a whole, sending the message and an indication of the preferred delivery technique to a queue at the server, wherein the queue is associated with the telephone area code, and the telephone exchange, wherein the message further comprises a file that comprises a spool file, and wherein the sending further comprises appending the telephone number of the recipient to

Art Unit: 2194

a name of the file that is sent to the queue, wherein the server sends a fax of the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique of the sent message comprises a fax transmission, calls the recipient and plays the message if the preferred delivery technique of the sent message comprises voice, and prints and mails the message to the recipient if the preferred delivery technique of the sent message comprises a physical delivery as recited in the independent claims 1, 6, 11, 16 . Moreover, evidence for modifying the prior art teachings by one of ordinary skill level in the art was not uncovered so as to result in the invention as recited in claims 1, 6, 11, 16.

D. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LeChi Truong whose telephone number is (571) 272-3767. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sough Hyung can be reached on (571) 272-6799. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2194

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIP. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIP system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197(toll-free).

/LeChi Truong/

Examiner, Art Unit 2194

LeChi Truong

June 10, 2009